

**STATE OF MARYLAND**

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

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## Office of the Secretary of State

### *Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis and Recommended Actions*

#### **Senate Budget and Taxation Committee Sub-Committee on Health and Human Services Fiscal Year 2005 Operating Budget Hearing February 10, 2004**

**Performance Analysis: Managing for Results – Objective 1.1 aims to receive all filings for the *Maryland Register* on-line by fiscal 2006. Due to the fiscal condition of the State, an information technology project to create an on-line filing system has been delayed in recent years and will not be funded in fiscal 2005. However, of the estimated 1,900 documents filed for the *Maryland Register* in fiscal 2005, the Secretary of State anticipates 600 will be submitted electronically. The Secretary of State should comment on how this will occur without funding for the web-based filing initiative.**

#### *Office of the Secretary of State response:*

The Office of the Secretary of State is in the process of re-bidding its contract to print the *Maryland Register*. As part of the next contract (March 2004 through March 2009) the printer will establish an on-line filing system in addition to printing the *Maryland Register*. The cost of the on-line filing system will be amortized over the contract period and will be paid out of this agency's funds each year. By amortizing the cost, the Office feels it will be able to absorb the charge over the next five years.

**Recommended Action #1 – Reduce out-of-state travel. In light of the fiscal condition of the State, out-of-state travel should be reduced to \$6,500 to remain at fiscal 2004 levels.**

#### *Office of the Secretary of State response:*

The Office of the Secretary of State concurs with the recommended actions based on the condition of the State budget and the necessity for cost containment measures.